

Positive Alternatives 2014 - 15 Quarterly Update

Grantee: CRADLE OF HOPE

Goal: To provide housing assistance and portable cribs to pregnant women and their babies

For the period: Jan. 01, 2015 – Mar. 31, 2015

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description <small>Major Work Plan Activities</small>	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments <small>Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.</small>	Report Count
Administrative Activities	Maintain application approval process; distribute program materials as needed; maintain, train and manage volunteers; train referral agencies; maintain or replace existing Cribsites		Cradle of Hope is moving in May.** Prior to sending the necessary revised forms & applications to our referral agencies, we distributed a questionnaire to get information updates about them. The completed questionnaires are assisting us in verifying these agencies' contact information as well as ascertaining what services they currently offer. This information will help us make better referrals for our potential PA clients. We are processing the questionnaire information as it comes to us. (See Challenges**).	
Crib Distribution/ Sleep Safety Education	Provide newborns with portable cribs (pack-n-plays)	116	Pack-N-Plays continue to be in high demand for low-income pregnant women. We have processes in place to be sure women are provided sleep safety education before the pack-n-plays are distributed to them.	134
Housing Assistance	Provide funding for housing assistance	38	Through the closing down of another of its grantees, Positive Alternatives provided us with an opportunity to increase our grant money for rents for the remainder of the 2014-2016 grant cycle. We accepted this opportunity and have been able to provide rents to all of our clients whose applications met our criteria. This quarter, many women who would normally be in need of rental assistance were able to cover their expenses with their tax returns. Once tax returns are spent, we anticipate a greater number of applications to come through for which we will now have money to help.	42

Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies	No.
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	
<i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	
<i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	
<i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	134
<i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	

Challenges: **The company that “sponsors” our physical offices is moving and they have generously offered to continue to give us free office space at the new location. Nonetheless, preparing to move is time-consuming as we are sorting through all of our stored paperwork, client files, records etc. to determine what records (including those for PA) we must keep and what we can dispose of prior to the move.

We are confident that the information on our questionnaires that we are receiving back from our referral agencies is going to help us tremendously in being able to refer our clients to the agency that can do the most good for them. However, the compiling of the questionnaire information is quite time-consuming and will be ongoing for some time.

Comments: *We appreciate and are encouraged by the MN Department of Health’s consistent support of our program.